

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
OFFICE OF PLANNING



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**First Public Workshops to Revise the DC Comprehensive Plan  
Set for January 25 – 29, 2005; Four Schools to Host Planning Sessions**

**Washington, DC** -- The DC Office of Planning today announced the four local schools that will host the first series of public workshops to involve District residents, businesses, and community groups in revising DC's Comprehensive Plan. The plan, which has not been revised since 1984, will guide the District's growth and land use priorities for the next 20 years. The Comp Plan workshops will be held the evenings of January 25, 26, 27 and the mornings of Saturday, January 29, 2005, at four different locations around the city.

**Tuesday, Jan. 25, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**  
McKinley Technology High School  
151 T St., NE  
Buses P6, 80; Metro (red line) Rhode Island Avenue Station

**Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2005 6:00-9:00 p.m.**  
Paul Public Charter School  
5800 8<sup>th</sup> St., NW  
Buses: 70, 62, E2, E3, E4

**Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**  
Ballou Sr. High School  
3401 4<sup>th</sup> St., SE  
Buses: A2, M8; Metro (green line) Congress Heights Station

**Saturday, Jan. 29, 2005, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Community Fair & Workshop**  
Shaw Jr. High School  
925 Rhode Island Ave., NW  
Buses: G8, 70; Metro (green line) Shaw-Howard Station

**(DC residents can attend any workshop and Spanish-language services will be provided.)**  
[View the workshop flyer here](#)

**(more)**

Participants will be asked to offer their thoughts about major challenges facing the District today, including:

- Housing choices
- Transportation and land use
- Environmental Quality
- Access to employment

Mitchell Silver, Deputy Director, Long Range Planning for the city, said each workshop will provide an overview of what a Comprehensive Plan is, how it relates to the District's "family of plans," why it is important and why and how it is being revised. He stressed the sessions would be "enjoyable, highly interactive and geared to meet the needs of community members with different levels of interest and background in planning issues."

"Those who come will leave the work sessions enthused about their role and the possibilities for creating an inclusive city for themselves and future generations," Silver said.

Participants will also be able to share their views on comment cards and in a video booth where they can tape a brief statement.

Silver said follow-up workshops are planned for June 2005 and January 2006. These later workshops will provide a continued forum for public discussion of proposed policies and actions as the Comp Plan is developed. A draft plan will be published by January 2006, with DC Council hearings in January and February 2006, and final approval in June 2006.

Distinct from traditional planning efforts, Silver said an unprecedented effort is being made to educate and engage DC residents of all backgrounds and all parts of the city in the Comp Plan revision. He cited the 12 public meetings that will be held; the placement of public service announcements and paid ads in Latino and African American publications and radio programs; and an easy to use public web site – [www.inclusivecity.org](http://www.inclusivecity.org) – that will regularly post a schedule of Comp Plan events and task force meetings, citizen feedback, background information, and a visual timeline of the how community input will be incorporated into the Comp Plan.

Silver said DC's current Comprehensive Plan, which is a legally required document that guides the city's land use and long-term development, must be thoroughly revised to address the tough challenges facing the District today. "That's why the District needs an accountable long-term plan to make sure the benefits of DC's prosperity are enjoyed across the city – from Cleveland Park to Mount Pleasant to Anacostia," Silver said.

A task force of 29 community and business representatives from across the city, appointed by Mayor Anthony A. Williams and the DC Council, will guide the Comp Plan revision process. Their monthly meetings are open to the public.

**For more information about the workshop schedule, visit [www.inclusivecity.org](http://www.inclusivecity.org)**

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